Completed:

(i) National Information System on Agriculture Education (NISAGE)

(ii) Project Information and Management System (PIMS)

(iii) Agricultural Field Experiments Information System (AFEIS)

(iv) Agriculture Research Data Information System—ARDIS

New ones started:

(i) A Mission Mode Project "Integrated National Agricultural Resources Information System"

(ii) Development of Software for On-line Information System on Personnel Management for Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Trading girl children by parents in Rajasthan

2134. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the trading of daughters by the parents in despair in the drought affected areas in Rajasthan because of utter lack of relief work and money;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study of the situation to identify the causes for failure of the measures taken so far in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to reprieve the drought affected people from such a desperation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) The Government of Rajasthan have informed that no such trading took place and that the State Government had undertaken adequate relief measures.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation as the nodal agency for management of natural disasters closely monitored the

situation from the beginning. In addition to release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund, assistance amounting to Rs. 113.97 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund was released to the State. The other steps taken to assist the State Government include free transportation of drinking water and fodder by the Railways, allocation of 5.68 lakh MTs of foodgrains free of cost under Food for Work Programme, allocation of 2.53 lakh MTs of foodgrains at Below Poverty Line rates and relaxation of norms not only with regard to release of funds under schemes implemented by Department of Drinking Water Supply but also for allowing funds for renovation, restoration, replacement and rejuvenation of the existing/defunct water supply schemes.

Central assistance for floods in Kerala

2135. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Kerala regarding Central assistance for floods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken in this regard;

(d) whether Government have any plan to provide assistance to agricultural labourers who lost their employment due to natural calamities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Kerala had submitted a Memorandum indicating a loss of about Rs.552 crore in the wake of heavy rains & floods during South-west Monsoon 2001 and sought immediate special Central assistance to tackle the situation. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team had recently visited the State for assessment of the situation. Second instalment of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund(CRF) for 2001-02 amounting to Rs.26.48